

Message Text

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47

ACTION EUR-25

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NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 SSO-00

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SUBJ: ATHENS PRESS - AUGUST 17

1. SUMMARY: FRONT PAGES OF ATHENS DAILIES CONCENTRATED ON PM CARAMANLIS' DECLINING INVITATION TO VISIT WASHINGTON, NEW CEASEFIRE IN CYPRUS AND ARRIVAL AUGUST 16 OF ANDREAS PAPANDREOU. EDITORIALS PRAISED PREMIER'S AUGUST 15 SPEECH, SUPPORTED DECISION TO WITHDRAW FROM NATO AND URGED GREAT POWERS TO IMPLEMENT ARTICLE 42 (SIC) OF UN CHARTER. END SUMMARY.

2. HEADLINES IN MORNING PRESS ANNOUNCED "CARAMANLIS REJECTED INVITATION FROM FORD" (AKROPOLIS), "GREECE REJECTS TURKISH BARBARISM AND AMERICAN HYPOCRISY"(TO VIMA), AND "LET US HAVE AN EXPLANATION" (RE PAPANDREOU), "CARAMANLIS REJECTS INVITATION TO MEET PRESS OF US," (ELEFTEROS COSMOS) AND MAJESTIC DEMONSTRATIONS APPROVING NEW POLICY IN ATHENS AND PROVINCES," (AVGHI). NEWSPAPERS CARRIED SECONDARY STORIES ON FRENCH ACCELERATING DELIVERY OF 50 MIRAGE AIRCRAFT, 100 AMX TANKS AND 12 MISSILE BOATS; US AND TURKISH PERSONNEL VACATING NATO BUILDING IN THESSALONIKI; AGREEMENT WITH USSR TO EXPOIT PHILLIPI PEAT BOGS REACTIVATED; AND ARRIVALS OF EEC PARLIAMENTARY UNCLASSIFIED

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PRESIDENT, ARCHBISHOP IAKOVOS, AND YUGOSLAV DEPUTY PM

MINIC. ACCORING TO PRESS, GREEK DEPUTY PM AND FM MAVROS WILL MEET MINIC AT AIRPORT; LATTER CARRIES PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM TITO TO CARAMANLIS.

3. ALL NEWSPAPERS REPORTED PROMINENTLY ARRIVAL OF ANDREAS PAPANDROU. PHOTOS AND EXTRACTS FROM SPEECH WERE FEATURED. PRESS INDICATED PAPANDREOU IS MAKING HEADQUARTERS IN KASTRI, SUBURB NORTH OF ATHENS WHERE FAMILY HOME LOCATED.

4. EDITORIALS SUPPORTED CARAMANLIS' DECISION TO WITHDRAW MILITARY FROM NATO SINCE NATO "WAS UNABLE TO PREVENT ONE OF ITS MEMBERS-TURKEY-FROM ACTING NOT ONLY CONTRARY TO INTERNATIONAL LAW BUT ALLOWED TURKEY TO UNDERMINE VERY FOUNDATIONS OF THE ALLIANCE" (AKROPOLIS). "VRADYNI" ADDED THAT SUCH DECISION WAS PROVOKED BY BRUTAL DISREGARD OF PRINCIPLES AND RECENT PROCLAMATION OF NATO. "ELEFTHEROS COSMOS" WROTE THAT IF GREAT POWERS TRULY WISH TO PREVENT WAR THEY SHOULD IMMEDIATELY APPLY ARTICLE 42 OF UN CHARTER. "COSMOS" NOTED MORAL CONDEMNATION IS A WASTE OF TIME; SECURITY COUNCIL SHOULD PLACE TURKEY IN STRAITJACKET. "ESTIA" OBSERVED THAT TURKS HAVE SHAMED UN. "TURKEY HAS NO RESPECT FOR INTERNATIONAL ORDER. UN HAS BEEN BLAMED FOR REPEATED FAILURES, WORSE IS PRESENT DRAMA IN CYPRUS HELLENISM."
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